

Timely Tidbits ...

Belleville Strawberry Fest

The annual Belleville National Strawberry Festival will be held the weekend of Friday, June 19, through Sunday, June 21, at various locations throughout the city. Highlights of the event will include a parade (Saturday, 11 a.m.), a carnival, stage entertainment, a car show/swap, arts & crafts, daily dinner specials at St. Anthony Church (spaghetti on Friday, barbecue chicken on Saturday, and a Polish dinner on Sunday), contests for "Strawberry Idol" and "Strawberry Queen" – and, of course, lots of delicious strawberry treats.

For info, call 734-697-3137 or visit www.nationalstrawberryfest.com.

Flea Market in the Park

The Romulus Historical Society will host its annual Flea Market at Historical Park (next to the post office at Goddard and Hunt) on Saturday, June 20, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vendor spaces (\$15; supply your own tables) are still available. Note that, due to a new federal law, no children's items will be allowed for sale.

For more information, contact Cathy Morse (734-941-6361).

"Photo Walk" Planned

Romulus will be among more than 700 locations participating in a Worldwide Photo Walk on Saturday, July 18. The event will begin at 9 a.m. at Romulus Historical Park (next to the post office at Goddard and Hunt) and conclude at Romulus House Restaurant (corner of Wayne and Wick). According to local walk leader Roger Kadau, photographer for the City of Romulus, you don't have to be a professional to take part in the event. All who enjoy taking pictures in a fun, friendly setting are welcome.

Visit worldwidephotowalk.com to register.

Filing Deadline Nears

Just a reminder that residents of Romulus and Taylor who wish to run for a local elected office this fall must file their petitions with their respective clerk's office by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23.

For information, call the clerk's office in Romulus (734-942-7540) or Taylor (734-374-1474). □

Kennedy, Truman Honor Best and Brightest of 2009

Amanda Brock of Harry S. Truman High School and Kourtney Davis of John F. Kennedy set the standard for excellence for the Taylor School District's Class of 2009. Brock maintained a grade point average of 4.19 to lead Truman's five other co-valedictorians (Jason Atkari, Justin Atkari, Ian Cooley, Ryan Smith, and Nikolai Stiles), while Davis's GPA of 4.24 was tops among nine other co-valedictorians (Justin Aleshire, Jessica McCullough, Samantha Perry, Zachary Raboczkay, Emily Standafer, Alita Szabo, Brittany Thomas, Bunheng Ty, and Kaitlin Wlodkowski) at Kennedy.

Brock and Davis were among hundreds of students who were recognized for excellence in academic and vocational subjects, fine arts, and/or athletics during honors convocations held at the schools. A list of selected honorees begins on page 4.



Harry S. Truman High School's top student, Amanda Brock, led her class with a 4.19 GPA.



Kourtney Davis led the senior class at John F. Kennedy High School with a GPA of 4.24.

RHS Girls Track Team Is State Champ

Romulus High School's Lady Eagles track team, which won its first ever Division 1 State Championship on May 30, was presented with a proclamation of recognition at the Romulus City Council meeting held on June 8.

The team, led by senior Christienne Linton, pulled into first place in dramatic fashion in the last event of the meet, the 1,600-meter relay. With a time of 3:52.53, the foursome of Linton, Kanaya Williams, Britnee Bishop, and Malita Rutherford (all of whom earned All-State honors) finished nearly two seconds faster than second-place Rockford.

The win put the Lady Eagles point total at 38 – one ahead of Rockford and

two ahead of Ann Arbor Pioneer.

Other teams competing at the state finals, held in Grand Rapids, included Rochester (33 points) and Waterford Mott (31 points).

Altogether, Romulus qualified in six individual events and two relays. Linton captured two first-place finishes, winning the long jump and setting a Division 1 record in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 42.86 seconds. She also finished second in the 100 hurdles.

Other team members are Sharonda Vesey, Sarah Payne, and Christina Crawford.

The Lady Eagles were led by coach Wade Cook and assistant coach Carleton McCauley. □

City Asks Congress To Protect Local Dealer

During the Romulus City Council meeting on June 8, Mayor Alan R. Lambert introduced a resolution pledging to work with all parties, including the congressional delegation, to explore options for keeping John Rogin GMC from closing. The 60-year-old dealership, located on Goddard Road, has been a fixture in the local community since 1949, and employs 15 people. Council passed the resolution unanimously.

"As we face the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, the City of Romulus is going to fight hard to protect local jobs and businesses," Lambert said. "Our congressional delegation, led by Congressman John Dingell, Senator Carl Levin, and Senator Debbie Stabenow, understands how important dealerships are to local communities. They have led the fight to protect the auto industry, auto jobs, and auto dealers. We're ready to work with them, roll up our sleeves, and fight for every job. The families who will be affected are our friends and neighbors, and we owe it to them to do everything we can."

John Rogin and its employees have been active in the Parade of Lights, the Romulus Pumpkin Festival, and Little League, and support charitable groups like the Mayor's Drug Task Force and the Rotary. □



On June 8, Mayor Alan R. Lambert and members of the City Council presented the Romulus High School girls track team with a proclamation in honor of their recent Division I State Championship. Photo by R. E. Kadau

Guest Commentary

Lambert Meets with Officials at GM Plant

By Mayor Alan R. Lambert, City of Romulus
Jobs, jobs, jobs!

Last week I had the honor of meeting with Governor Jennifer Granholm, Congressman John Dingell, United States Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis, and Director of Recovery for Auto Workers Ed Montgomery. Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, and State Representative Douglas Geiss were also on hand at the event, and we all had the opportunity to voice our concerns about jobs in Michigan.

We met at the Romulus GM Powertrain plant and toured the facility. I have had the pleasure of touring the facility before, but it was great to see our federal officials meet some of our local workers. I want to thank all who attended the event, and include my special thanks to the GM employees and union workers for their dedication, sacrifice, and hard work during these trying times.

The news that the Romulus GM Powertrain plant will remain open is very

positive for our city. General Motors is one of the largest business operations in Romulus, and they are a great corporate citizen. We should all do our best to support our Detroit-area automakers whenever we can!

As General Motors looks to the future, so do we. There are many emerging technologies that will complement our automotive industry and enhance the Michigan economy in the future. We are currently working with officials to bring such new business to our city. It is a very competitive process, but I can say that we have many promising projects in the works designed to bring more jobs to Romulus.

At the city level, we continue to preserve jobs here at home. We have managed to do more with less by tightening our financial belts and providing eight consecutive balanced city budgets, with no layoffs of city employees or reduction in services.

We will continue our work in preserving existing jobs and bringing new jobs to the community. □

Two from Taylor Arraigned in Beating of Brownstown Township Man

Two Taylor men have been arraigned in 23rd District Court for the beating of a man from Brownstown Township.

Pleas of not guilty were entered before Judge William Sutherland on June 8 for Bradley Scott Adkins, age 19, and Daniel Michael Hagen, 21. The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office charged both with assault with intent to commit murder; armed robbery; assault with intent to rob armed; and conspiracy charges. The charges stem from the assault of Brownstown resident Chadrick Stanfield, 29, who was beaten with his own golf clubs in the street in the 14400 block of Fellrath in the early morning of June 6.

Adkins turned himself in to Taylor

Police that morning, and officers arrested Hagen later in the day in Inkster.

According to a statement issued by the TPD on Tuesday, their investigation has shown that the defendants and victim did not know each other.

"This appears to have been a random act [conducted] while the victim was walking through the neighborhood and asking for directions," said Detective Sergeant Mary Scabassi.

Stanfield was still in critical condition at a nearby hospital as of Tuesday afternoon.

Adkins and Hagen were remanded to the Wayne County Jail without bond. They will appear in 23rd District Court for a preliminary examination on June 15. □



Bradley Adkins



Daniel Hagen

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Dobbins Seeks Taylor Clerk Position

A lifelong Taylor resident with 17 years of experience in service industries has announced her candidacy for city clerk.

Erin Dobbins, the general manager of her family-owned Taylor Lanes bowling center, will seek the office as a member of a team headed by Taylor Mayor Cameron G. Priebe.

Dobbins, 36, is already active in city government and civic affairs. She recently served on the citizens steering committee that created Taylor's new master plan, and currently serves on the Cultural Arts and the Parks and Recreation commissions.

She is also a member of the Rotary Club of Taylor.

According to Dobbins, the positive experience she gained as a member of those commissions and as a longtime volunteer prompted her to seek the office of city clerk.

"While serving on the steering committee for the new master plan, I learned that I share with many of our citizens the same concerns as well as long-term goals for our city," she said. "As a former Realtor of 10 years, I am well familiar with our neighborhoods, business districts, and parks."

"I am committed to the preservation of green space and promotion of amenities that will improve our quality of life while respecting the economic growth needs of our city," she added.

Dobbins appreciates the need to have information that affects Taylor residents readily available.

"I would like to explore avenues of technology that could more efficiently serve the community with respect to disseminating information as well as notifying residents and businesses of important items," she said.

Mayor Priebe is happy to have Dobbins on his team.

**Erin Dobbins**

bins on his team.

"Erin is a bright, intelligent person who has brought great perspective to our city commissions and master plan process," he said. "Her enthusiasm for Taylor, her community pride, and her interest in seeing the city move forward are contagious. I look forward to working alongside her in the 2009 city campaign."

Priebe said Taylor's city clerk needs to be someone who is "fiscally responsible" and is a "team player" - especially during tough economic times. He added that Dobbins, with her years of operating a business, fits the mold.

"We want to work with somebody who will work with us," the Mayor stated. "The city clerk needs to work within the budget. When we are going to have to cut back - rather than raise taxes - we need a city clerk who is willing to do more with less."

"Erin Dobbins will make an outstanding city clerk." □

Pre-Prom Toast Draws Chic Crowd



(From right) Romulus High School senior Taurean Bradley and junior Victoria Mangham were among the many handsomely attired students who were greeted by Mayor Alan R. Lambert and other local dignitaries at the school's annual Pre-Prom Toast, held on June 3. Photo by R. E. Kadan



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Hardware Celebrates 60th Anniversary



During Stears True Value Hardware's 60th anniversary celebration, which included drawings for 60 prizes, Bill Stears (left) presented the second grand prize – a Worx Sawzall – to Gary Staffeld.

Stears True Value Hardware's 60th anniversary celebration, held May 30, was a fun-filled event in a cheerful, picnic-like atmosphere. Colorful balloons swayed in the breeze as old friends and new faces gathered to share stories and enjoy hot dogs served with all the trimmings. Drawings for 60 prizes (12 each day from May 26–30) concluded with the awarding of a grand prize (a steam carpet cleaner won by Bryan Younglove) and a second grand prize (a sawzall won by Gary Staffeld). And, for the two weeks preceding the event, customers got to choose a gift from a full rack of items with every purchase.

"We wanted our customers to know that we truly appreciate them," said co-owner Kathé Stears. "The economy has brought many challenges, but our great customers are loyal to the hardware on the corner. I think we've all come to realize the importance of supporting each other, as a community, in these difficult times."

During the past 60 years, the family's history has been deeply entwined with the Romulus community.

Back in the mid-1940s, William Stears Sr. met Joyce Block at the Mayflower Roller-rink (on Middlebelt near Eureka), where

Bill was a partner and floorman at the time. On July 24, 1948, the two were married at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Taylor; their reception was held at the rink.

In 1949, Bill and Joyce became partners with Joyce's brother, Earl Block, in Cox General Store. Earl ran the grocery portion and Bill ran the hardware section until 1959, when they decided to start separate establishments. Earl built his store on Eureka Road, while Bill and Joyce built their hardware on Middlebelt. They moved into their new building in the fall of 1960, which was also the year that Stears Hardware became a substation for the Romulus post office.

In the meantime, business wasn't the only thing that was growing; so was the Stears family. Oldest daughter Kathé's birth in 1949 was followed by the arrival of first Sally, then Peggy, and finally, in the fall of 1960, Bill Jr. The Stears children grew up in the business and – except for Sally Waugh, who moved to Colorado in 1976 and now lives in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands – they continue to carry on the tradition today. Peggy and her husband, Roger Staten, have two sons who grew up in the hardware: Roger Jr., who now works for the City of Romulus Department of Public Works, and Ricky, who's employed at Dearborn Sausage. And now the pitter-patter of little feet can be heard again as the couple's grandchildren – Tyler, Anthony, and Angel – are often at the store, as well. It truly has been a family affair!

When asked how they have stayed in business together for so many years, co-owner Bill Jr. replied, "We work as a team as well as a family, and we treat our customers as if they are part of our family, too."

As most things do over the course of 60 years, Stears Hardware has seen a number of changes. Bill Sr., who retired from business in the late 1970s, passed away in October 1987. Joyce, who retired in the early 1980s, passed away in November 2006.

The business itself has changed with the times, too.

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(From left) Fred Block, Roger Staten Jr., and Roger Staten were all smiles during the celebration. Customers old and new gathered to share stories while enjoying hot dogs served with all the trimmings from a Dearborn Sausage cart.

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Awards Programs Honor Best and Brightest of Class of 2009

Awards programs held at Taylor high schools recognized Class of 2009 members with outstanding achievements in academics, vocational subjects, music, and athletics.

Kennedy High School

John F. Kennedy High School held its annual Senior Honors Convocation on Thursday, May 21.

Among the honorees* were:

- Rodney Abbott (PE)
- Tammala Abbott – 3.1077 (CL; band, choir, and SS)
- Phillip Accettura (PE)
- Ashley Adams (choir)
- Justin Aleshire – 4.1290 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; German, LA, science, and SS; JROTC)
- Kayla Aleshire – 3.8337 (SCL; 4Y; band, German, LA, math, science, and SS)
- Kataya Alvarez (band)
- Recca Ames – 3.0000 (CL; choir and Spanish)
- Gloria Anderson – 3.2511 (CL; business, LA, and Spanish)
- Jennifer Anderson (choir)
- Morgan Anderson (band)
- Robbie Ansell – 3.0475 (CL)
- Rebecca Archibald – 3.1782 (CL; PE and SS)
- Brian Asbury – 3.6432 (MCL; LA and SS)
- Anthony Ashe (PE)
- Shannon Balabuch – 3.7146 (MCL; LA and SS)
- Dakota Banach (German and PE)
- Sara Batten – 3.3814 (CL; 1Y; SS; NTHS – culinary arts)
- Destiny Birchfield – 3.1907 (CL; business)
- Ashley Blackburn (choir)
- Cierra Blue (PE)
- Ian Bradley (PE)
- Jennifer Brian – 3.0839 (CL; French and LA)
- Cristal Buenaventura (art and French)
- Amanda Burgess (choir)
- Melissa Burkeen (band)
- Travis Burkey – 3.6918 (MCL; 4Y; LA, math, and SS; NTHS – welding)
- Demetrius Burnley (PE)
- Samantha Cabanaw (LA)
- Eva Campbell (business and Spanish)
- Travis Childress (PE)
- Joseph Chrzaszcz – 3.8807 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; math, science, SS, and Spanish; Marines Distinguished Athlete Award)
- Melissa Clay (band)
- Melissa Crossman – 3.4875 (CL; SS and Spanish)
- Sergiu Curtean (PE)
- Racheal Curtis (choir)
- Rebecca Daugherty (choir and PE)
- Kourtney Davis – 4.2382 (valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, math, science, and SS; Marines Scholastic Excellence Award)

- Michael Davis – 3.4536 (CL; LA and SS)
- Kimberly Dean – 3.7855 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; business, German, LA, math, and SS)
- Nikolaus Deneau (band)
- Kelly Denton – 3.5239 (MCL; choir, SS, and Spanish)
- Kayleen Desjardins – 3.9054 (SCL; 4Y; LA, science, and SS; NHS)
- Kristin Devor (science)
- Hakeem Dillard (PE)
- Sarah Docherty (band)
- David Dubay (band and PE)
- Samantha Eastman (French)
- Mohammad El Taboch (LA and PE)
- Megan Emond – 3.0239 (CL; choir)
- Christopher Ennis (PE)
- Alyssa Estelle (choir)
- Joel Estrada (PE)
- Andrea Feurtardo (Spanish)
- Kari Fields – 3.1668 (CL; business and PE)
- Lamont Fisher (PE)
- Kimberly Fitch – 3.2511 (CL; choir and LA)
- Cortez Fox (PE)
- Albert Freemon (PE)
- Kenneth Fritz (PE)
- Damon Gardner (PE)
- Candae Graham (F&CS and LA)
- Kenneth Grech (PE)
- Chelsea Guevara (PE)
- Stephanie Gutierrez – 3.6353 (MCL; band, SS, and Spanish; Marines Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence)
- Lucas Hannah (PE)
- Keith Hattie – 3.0357 (CL)
- Kyle Hattie – 3.5121 (MCL; 3Y; LA, math, and SS)
- Christopher Hernandez – 3.2315 (CL; LA)
- Chartricia Hightower – 3.0125 (CL; F&CS, LA, and SS; NTHS – culinary arts)
- Breland Hogan (PE)
- Krista Holliday (choir)
- Tanisha Holloway – 3.6075 (MCL; choir and SS)
- Amanda Houck (PE)
- Joshua Howard (PE)
- William Jackson (PE)
- Jessica Janiga – 3.8221 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, science, SS, and Spanish)
- Jamie Janson – 3.0004 (CL; Spanish)
- Aaron Jones (PE)
- Willie Jones (PE)
- Shantel Justus (Spanish)
- Dayna Kalasz (band)
- Shelby Kalasz (band)
- Brian Keathley – 3.0004 (CL; SS)
- Anessa Keating – 3.6075 (MCL; choir, German, and SS)
- Alexis King (band)
- Angela Kregel – 3.0957 (CL)
- Devon Kroeyr – 3.0236 (CL)
- Michael Kromer – 3.0574 (CL; LA)
- Dominique Lacea – 3.1196 (CL; LA and PE)

- Kelly Landini (band)
- Sophia Laille – 3.4316 (CL; French and LA)
- Rebecca Levitt – 3.1789 (CL; German)
- Marcella Liszka (marching/symphony band)
- Savannah Ludwig (SS)
- Jason Manders (band cadet)
- Kristin Marcis – 3.1307 (CL; LA and Spanish)
- Matthew Matney – 3.0000 (CL; business and PE)
- Paris Mayo – 3.2159 (CL; LA)
- Loni McCloud (band)
- Jessica McConnell (business)
- Jessica McCullough – 4.2100 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, math, science, and SS)
- Casey McGuckin (PE)
- Krista Messer – 3.3696 (CL; business and Spanish; Marines Distinguished Athlete Award)
- Eric Miller – 3.7857 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, SS, and Spanish)
- Julie Mitchell (choir)
- Matthew Moore (PE)
- Austin Morris (business)
- Christopher Murray (SS)
- Jeremiah Newman (PE)
- Joshua Nobles – 3.7143 (MCL; LA and SS)
- Miranda O'Rourke – 3.4120 (CL; SS and Spanish)

- Hector Ortega (NTHS – secretary/treasurer; computer information tech)
- Matthew Owens (LA and PE)
- Nicholas Owens (PE)
- Muhammad Paracha (PE)
- Christopher Parsons (PE)
- Keith Pattenau (PE)
- Samantha Perry – 4.2264 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, math, science, SS, and Spanish; class president)
- Shannon Pierce (band)
- Jenna Powers – 3.2264 (CL; LA and PE)
- Sierra Poznanski – 3.4050 (CL; LA and Spanish)
- James Pressey (PE)
- Zachary Raboczky – 4.1075 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; band, LA, math, science, and SS)
- Erin Radcliff – 3.2271 (CL; SS)
- Megan Ramey (PE)
- Kyle Rapley – 3.9646 (salutatorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, math, science, and SS)
- Alexandra Reeves – 3.2563 (CL; SS)
- Sarah Reeves (LA)
- Joseph Rhodes (PE)
- Eric Rice – 3.3100 (CL; SS)
- Dalton Rickard – 3.0718 (CL; business and PE)
- Amanda Ritchie (choir)

continued on page 8

Congratulations, Class of 2009

Best wishes to this year's high school graduates and your families. As you step into the future, choose worthy goals, then strive hard to achieve them.

Our very best to each of you at this exciting time.

From Priebe Team 2009



Mayor Priebe

Mayor Cameron G. Priebe
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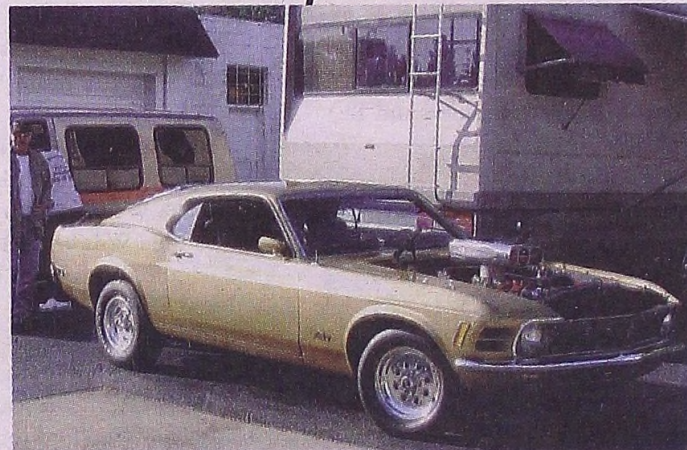
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Awards Programs Honor Best and Brightest of Class of 2009

continued from page 5

- Matthew Robbins – 3.3100 (CL; SS)
- Asia Robinson (choir)
- Sean Robinson – 3.0583 (CL; math and PE)
- Fel Rodriguez – 3.2823 (CL)
- Sarah Roe – 3.3936 (CL; LA)
- Eric Rossi-Delafuente – 3.4521 (CL; 1Y; math)
- Aleigha Rowe – 3.5297 (MCL; German and LA)
- Molly Rowe – 3.4710 (CL; business)
- Stephanie Sacksteder (business)
- Samantha Schell (business and PE)
- Nicholas Scherret (PE)
- Ashley Schultz (business)
- Chelsee Senia – 3.6071 (MCL; LA and SS)
- Amber Sharp – 3.0950 (CL; PE)
- Mellisa Shepherd – 3.3218 (CL; LA; NTHS – computer office specialist)
- Angela Smiddy – 3.2979 (CL; SS)
- Courtney Smith – 3.1136 (LA)
- Amber Staggs – 3.0118 (CL)
- Emily Standafer – 4.0890 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; band, LA, math, science, SS, and Spanish)
- Greg Steavens (art)
- Dominique Stone (PE)
- Shawn Strausser (LA and Spanish)
- Alita Szabo – 4.0904 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, math, science, and SS)
- Christopher Tavalacci – 3.6314 (MCL; 4Y; LA and math; NTHS – manufacturing returning member)
- Russell Terrill – 3.6259 (MCL; 4Y; band, LA, and math)
- Brittany Thomas – 4.0836 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, math, science, SS, and Spanish)
- Melissa Thomas (art)
- Martez Thompson – 3.2500 (CL; LA, math, and PE)
- Ericka Tolliver – 3.0978 (CL; PE)
- Allie Tomaszewski – 3.9050 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; art, LA, science, and SS)
- Cassandra Torrez – 3.8400 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA)
- Daniel Tran – 3.8929 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; business, LA, math, science, and SS)
- Bradley Tumas – 3.8096 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, math; and SS)
- Laysha Turnage (business and F&CS)
- Rebecca Tuttle – 3.4171 (CL; LA and SS)
- Bunheng Ty – 4.1786 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, math, science, and SS)
- Faith Tyler – 3.0364 (CL; choir)
- Jabrina Tyson (band)
- Natasha Warn (PE)
- Stephanie Watts – 3.2268 (CL; business and Spanish)
- Tyler Wells (PE)
- Milton White (band)
- Kyla Whitfield – 3.1421 (CL)
- Blake Williams (PE)
- Ronnie Wilson (PE)
- Jennifer Winans – 3.6071 (MCL; LA and SS)
- Kaitlin Wlodkowski – 4.1189 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; band, LA, math, science, and SS)
- Jerome Woolford (business and PE)
- Lisa Wyse – 3.8926 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; band, LA, science, SS, and Spanish)
- Michele Wysocki – 3.8689 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; LA, SS, and Spanish)
- Michael Zub (PE)
- David Zyback (band)
- Noelle Bradley – 3.29 (CL; science)
- Kyle Brewer – 3.02 (CL)
- Amanda Brock – 4.19 (valedictorian; SCL; PHK; 4Y; 7HR; English, French, math, science, and SS; NHS)
- Markie Brown – 3.03 (CL; English and newspaper)
- Steven Cain (PE)
- Justin Cameron (CT)
- Ryan Cartwright – 3.08 (CL; PE)
- Robert Caudill – 3.86 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English and science; NHS)
- Christopher Cody (math)
- Ashley Collins (JROTC)
- Ian Cooley – 4.11 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English, math, science, and SS; NHS)
- Douglas Copple – 3.32 (CL; PE and science)
- Carl Cossins – 3.00 (CL; SS)
- Mistee Crabtree (chorus)
- Eric Craig (JROTC and newspaper)
- Crace Crozier – 3.28 (CL; business and English)
- Kyle Curtis – 3.35 (CL; 2Y; band and science)
- Chelsea Daisey (newspaper)
- Rachel Daugherty (business)
- Meghan Dawson – 3.47 (CL; 3Y; 7HR; English, JROTC, and science)
- James DeLisle (JROTC)
- Jayzee Diggs (JROTC)
- Nelson Dixon (CT)
- Charlotte Dobessi-Bossombo – 3.45 (CL; 3Y; SS)
- Michael Douglas – 3.52 (MCL; 3Y; 7HR; English, PE, and science)
- Chelsea Dranberg – 3.27 (CL; English)
- Brittany Drumm (business)
- Krystal Elmore – 3.33 (CL; 1Y; PE)
- Michelle Flores – 3.01 (CL)
- Derek Frady – 3.42 (CL; 4Y; 7HR; science; NHS)
- Virginia Galguera – 3.04 (CL)
- Jack Giraud – 3.90 (salutatorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; math, science, and SS)
- Alyssa Gray – 3.31 (CL; home economics and Spanish)
- Tershaunda Gray – 3.29 (CL; band and science)
- Jessica Grden – 3.11 (CL)
- Katelyn Grech – 3.42 (CL; 3Y; 7HR; English)
- Kate Guile – 3.05 (CL; home economics)
- Jeremy Gutowski (PE)
- Brittnee Hale (NTHS - president)
- Ashley Hall – 3.67 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; band and computer office; NHS; NTHS)
- Chasidy Hall – 3.09 (CL; math)
- Keshia Hamilton (PE)
- Megan Harper (CT)
- James Harrington (JROTC)
- Kayla Harris – 3.12 (CL; art)
- Brittney Hartley – 3.60 (MCL; 3Y; English and SS)
- Jesselee Hartzog – 3.56 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; computer office; NHS)
- Brenda Hawkins – 3.45 (CL; 3Y; English)
- Jackie Hawthorne – 3.45 (CL; 1Y; English and SS)
- Kailynn Haywood – 3.21 (CL; English and science)
- Taylor Hodges – 3.08 (CL; art)
- Andrew Hood – 3.51 (MCL; 2Y; 7HR; JROTC and science)
- Porsha Howard – 3.10 (CL; PE)
- Vera Howard (JROTC)
- Kayla Hubbard (band)
- Patrick Hudson (band)
- Natalie Hufford (chorus)
- Preston Ingram (PE)
- Elizabeth Iveza – 3.02 (CL)
- Dale Jackson (PE)
- Kayla James (chorus)
- Holly Johnston – 3.75 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English, math, and SS; NHS)
- Paige Johnston – 3.05 (CL; home economics)
- Aaron Jones – 3.22 (CL; math and science)
- Amanda Jurysta – 3.09 (CL; humanitarian)
- Anita Kalmar – 3.28 (CL; culinary arts)
- Deray Kelley (PE)
- Crawford Kennedy (English)
- Alexandria Ketteman – 3.57 (MCL; 3Y; 7HR; English and science; NHS)
- Shane Kiracofe – 3.75 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English and math; NHS; NTHS)
- Brandi Konkus (CT)
- Jenna LaFace (English)
- Chelsea Laster – 3.08 (CL; newspaper)
- Megan Leach (science)
- James Lee (PE)
- Abigail Lemire – 3.11 (CL; chorus)
- Veronica Leonard – 3.51 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; art, English, and SS; NHS)
- Auriella Lewis – 3.57 (MCL; 3Y; 7HR; English and JROTC; NHS)
- Christopher Lewis – 3.42 (CL; 1Y; band)
- Ryan Lillibridge (PE)
- Kathryn Lippard – 3.56 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; JROTC and SS; NHS)
- Nicholas Lloyd – 3.00 (CL; CT; NTHS)
- Alaine Logan – 3.21 (CL)
- Kelly Lowe – 3.57 (MCL; 3Y; 7HR; math)
- Kyle Lucas (English)
- Caitlyn Machleit – 3.16 (CL; science)
- Ashley McCarren – 3.14 (CL; chorus)
- Carmen McCombs – 3.66 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; band, science, and SS; NHS)
- Micah McDaniel – 3.67 (MCL; 2Y; English and SS; NTHS)
- Amber McDermott – 3.49 (CL; 4Y; English, science, and SS; NHS)
- Caitlin McEwen – 3.09 (CL; home economics)
- Stephanie McGahan – 3.04 (CL; English)
- Travis McGuckin (PE)
- Monica McNeal (chorus)
- Matthew McVeigh – 3.33 (CL; 1Y; English)

continued on page 9

Truman High School

Harry S. Truman High School held its annual Senior Honors Convocation on Wednesday, May 20.

Among the honorees* were:

- Jordan Alberts (Chorus and JROTC)
- Allante Allen (PE)
- Jason Atkari – 4.03 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English, math, and science; NHS)
- Justin Atkari – 4.00 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; business, English, math, science, and SS; NHS)
- Matthew Bailey – 3.67 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; English, science, and SS; NHS)
- Marissa Blood – 3.10 (CL; English and Spanish)
- Joshua Bolla – 3.34 (CL; 1Y; SS)
- Alexandra Borkowski – 3.82 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English, science, and SS; NHS)

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Awards Programs Honor 2009's Best, Brightest

continued from page 8

- Christina Messer – 3.71 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; English; humanitarian)
 - Trent Morris – 3.70 (MCL; 1Y; 7HR; business, math, PE, and science)
 - Brittany Mullins – 3.23 (CL; computer office specialist)
 - Matthew Noble (English and PE)
 - Christina Nugent (chorus)
 - Christine Nute – 3.17 (CL; English and SS; NHS)
 - Erik Olson (PE)
 - Jamie Pappas – 3.76 (SCL; PBK; 3Y; 7HR; English, science, and SS)
 - Ryan Pappas (PE)
 - Troy Pare – 3.64 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; English; NHS)
 - Melissa Paternoster (home economics)
 - Michael Pattison – 3.33 (CL; 2Y; English)
 - Joseph Pepiton – 3.33 (CL; 2Y; industrial arts)
 - Molly Peters – 3.13 (CL; band and home economics)
 - Christopher Petrin (CT)
 - Cory Raney – 3.12 (CL; NTHS)
 - Jessica Remelius (newspaper)
 - George Rennie (band)
 - Monisha Richardson – 3.02 (CL)
 - Colleen Rowland – 3.16 (CL; home economics)
 - Bridget Sands – 3.04 (CL; PE)
 - Ashley Sartor – 3.09 (CL)
 - Randy Saucier – 3.29 (CL; science)
 - Christopher Saunders – 3.86 (SCL; 4Y; 7HR; English, industrial arts, and math; NTHS)
 - Mathew Sears – 3.35 (CL; 4Y; English)
 - Samantha Sharp – 3.13 (CL; Spanish)
 - Jessica Sheedy (JROTC)
 - Chelsea Sigarto – 3.01 (CL)
 - Justina Silcock – 3.14 (CL; newspaper)
 - Nickolas Simmons – 3.16 (CL; 7HR; PE)
 - Amy Siwarski – 3.42 (CL; 1Y)
 - Ryan Smith – 4.08 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English, math, science, and SS; NHS)
 - Natalie Stanley (JROTC)
 - Mark Steeby – 3.89 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; band, English, math, science, and SS; NHS)
 - Alexander Stellini – 3.65 (MCL; 2Y; English, PE, science, and SS)
 - Brandon Stevens (band)
 - Patrick Stewart – 3.70 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; math and science; NHS)
 - Nikolai Stiles – 4.06 (co-valedictorian; SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; band, English, math, science, and SS; NHS)
 - Amber Suthers (JROTC)
 - Lindsey Talley – 3.39 (CL; 3Y; 7HR; business and English)
 - James Teglash (band)
 - Drake Thomas (PE)
 - Caitlin Tkachuk (JROTC)
 - Sean Umlor – 3.84 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English, JROTC, and math; NHS)
 - Holly Wade – 3.65 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; PE and Spanish)
 - Ronald Weber (Italian)
 - John Williamson-Zacker – 3.89 (SCL; PBK; 4Y; 7HR; English, math, science, SS, and Spanish; NHS)
 - Adam Winnie – 3.66 (MCL; 4Y; 7HR; band, English, science, and SS; NHS)
 - Jasmine Wooten – 3.10 (CL)
 - Mark Wylie – 3.00 (CL; PE)
 - Tiara Zarazua – 3.38 (CL; 2Y; business; NHS)
- * * *
- *Due to space constraints, scholarships have been omitted from this list.*
- SCL: summa cum laude (GPA of 3.75 and above)*
- MCL: magna cum laude (GPA of 3.50 to 3.74)*
- CL: cum laude (GPA of 3.00 to 3.49)*
- PBK: Phi Beta Kappa honoree (minimum 3.75 GPA in 5 academics)*
- (1-4) Y: Taylor School District Academic Award (1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year)*
- 7HR: Honor Roll all 7 semesters*
- CT: construction technology*
- F&CS: family & consumer science*
- LA: language arts*
- PE: physical education*
- SS: social studies*
- NHS: National Honor Society*
- NTHS: National Technical Honor Society*
- JROTC: Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps* □

Taylor Farmers Market To Open June 24



Volunteers are excited about the upcoming debut of the Taylor Farmers Market on June 24. Standing outside the Sheridan Community Center are (from left) Angelo Salomone, Shirley Moore, Lindsay Boardman, Sharon Vespremi, Patty Donahue, and Diane Desrosiers.

A group of volunteers is working hard to create a weekly Taylor Farmers Market that will become a destination point for area residents in need of fresh produce and plants at affordable prices.

The outdoor market will debut on Wednesday, June 24, outside the Sheridan Community Center in front of Heritage Park (12111 Pardee Road). Hours will be noon to 7 p.m.

The committee establishing the market plans to offer Taylor residents and visitors access to locally grown produce. In addition, the volunteers are inviting local musicians and chefs to provide weekly entertainment and cooking demonstrations and tips.

"This is an opportunity to offer our residents fresh, locally grown produce and specialty products while providing the local farmers and vendors with a venue to expand their business," said 23rd District Court Judge Geno Salomone, one of the committee members who is an avid gardener.

"Just as importantly, we are hoping everyone has fun at the market."

Karen Salomone, the judge's wife, is chairwoman of the committee.

The volunteers went forward with the market concept after 785 people responded to an online poll on the City of Taylor Web site, www.cityoftaylor.com. A total of 737 (94%) said they would buy produce from local growers at a farm market in Taylor.

"It is our belief that this venture is another step in enhancing the quality of life in the City of Taylor," said committee member Diane Desrosiers.

Desrosiers said the "farmers" will be "coming from different areas of Michigan – and Michigan only." Farmers will have their own tents, and market organizers will feature a vendor of the week. Shoppers should bring their own bags or other containers for their purchases.

Some of the scheduled vendors are:

- American Premium Blends
- Avalon Bakery
- Pallet Gardens (turkey legs, barbecue and smoked)
- Vandalia Farms (Cornelius blueberry bushes, produce)
- Hoffman's Honey/Rick Wieske (honey, Chartruesse teas)
- Julie DeMeulenaere (produce, ever-bearing strawberries and apples)
- The Traffic Jam (cheeses and breads)
- Dee's Emporium (fresh and dried herbs and vegetables)

Committee member Lindsay Boardman said there are many benefits for consumers who shop at a farmers market and purchase their food locally.

"I think residents will be surprised at how much money they can save at a farmers market that offers fresh, quality food and produce," she said. "When produce is grown and purchased locally, money remains in the community and helps stimulate the economy on a local level. Residents and visitors can get fresh produce while helping to diminish the effects of globalization."

On June 24, visitors to the Taylor Farmers Market will get to meet Detroit-based Victoria Zande from noon to 2 p.m. Zande is an independent artist, author, songwriter, and musician who performs classical, blues, pop, and rock music, sings, and reads poetry. Zande will present a small acoustic musical performance and read excerpts from her writing/poetry preview collection under the Farmers' Market Tent.

Farmers interested in participating need to apply and be approved. Volunteers are needed to help facilitate the event. The committee is also seeking sponsors to help support the farm market. The weekly sponsorship is \$150. To participate, farmers, volunteers, and sponsors should call Shirley Moore at the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency (313-843-2550). □

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Happy Birthday!

Family Celebrates June Birthdays

Best wishes to Barbara Underwood, Lovell West, and Daizha Williams, who will celebrate birthdays on June 12, 13, and 9, respectively.

Daizha, who is Barbara's granddaughter, is graduating from Romulus Middle School this month, and will attend Romulus High School in the fall.

"I am so proud of my granddaughter," said Grandma Underwood. "I hope and pray that God will continue to bless her, and give her the strength she needs to continue through eight more years of school (four in high school and four in college)."



Barbara (right) and Daizha (left)

Engagement

Jodie Friedman and Steven Mientkiewicz

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Glassman of John's Island, South Carolina, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Mientkiewicz of Romulus, Michigan, announce the engagement of their children, Jodie Ilene Friedman and Steven Andrew Mientkiewicz.

Steven and Jodie are graduates of Eastern Michigan University, where they met as members of Alpha Phi Omega, a campus community-service organization. He is an American history teacher for Ypsilanti Lincoln Consolidated Schools. She is a teacher of emotionally impaired children for Redford Union Public Schools.

An interfaith wedding ceremony and celebration is planned for Sunday June 28,



Steven and Jodie

2009 at the Silver Garden of Southfield.

Stears Celebrates 60th Anniversary

continued from page 4

"At one time, we used to sell a lot of toys," said Kathé. "Now, our gift-ware section has a wide variety of antiques and collectibles. My 'secondary market' has drawn many regular customers looking for that special treasure!"

"Other past endeavors have included snowmobiles, chain-saw clinics, and sporting goods," she continued. "But, the good old hardware section hasn't changed that much. It still stocks a wide variety of nuts and bolts, plumbing supplies, tools, chain, electrical equipment, paint, housewares, etc. Most people are amazed at the variety of things we carry."

"We try to be the old-fashioned, helpful hardware store on the corner," added Bill Jr., who also cuts glass and pipe, repairs screens and windows, and performs other services for his customers. "We even have a table tucked away in a corner, just so our customers can socialize."

Stears True Value Hardware's tradition of helpfulness has long extended to the com-

munity. Over the years – besides being a member of the Romulus Historical Society – it has supported the local schools (especially PTA activities, "Student of the Month" programs, and sporting events), area Boy Scouts packs, the Romulus High School Alumni Association, the Romulus Rotary, various churches, the annual City of Romulus Fourth-of-July fireworks display, the Romulus Fire Department, and the Romulus DPW. Peggy and Roger also did a lot of volunteer work in the Romulus Community Schools.

Although their anniversary celebration is now over, the Stears family hopes that everyone will continue to stop in and share their memories. Among the pictures currently on display are some which show "Block's Corners" (as the intersection of Middlebelt and Eureka was known back in 1949 because there was a Block living on every corner) and the original Block homestead (the farmhouse behind the hardware), which was designated a "Centennial Farm" by the State of Michigan in the early 1980s.

Obituaries

Jason Dean Byard

Jason Dean Byard of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Thursday, June 4, 2009, at the age of 25.

The son of Richard and Vickie (Lusk) Byard was born in Dearborn, Michigan, on Sunday, October 9, 1983.

Jason was a creative guy who enjoyed drawing and computers. He was spontane-

ous and outgoing, and loved being a father to his daughter Alexia.

Surviving Jason are his parents; his daughter; a brother, Richard Byard; and a sister, Jessica Lusk.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, June 7, at David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville, MI).

Vesta Lawrence

Vesta Lawrence of Taylor, Michigan, passed away on Friday, June 5, 2009, at the age of 68.

The daughter of the late James and Susie (Strong) Kilburn was born in Saldee, Kentucky, on Monday, December 2, 1940.

Surviving Vesta are her husband, William Lawrence; 2 sons, Stephen E. (Stephanie) Thompson (Rochester Hills, MI) and Stewart (Angie) Thompson (Belleville, MI); a daughter, Peggy Thompson (Wayne, MI); 2 stepchildren, Ann Marie (Joe) Melville and Patricia (John) Pittman (all of Livonia, MI); and 11 grandchildren.

She is also survived by 3 brothers, Matt

Kilburn (Vancleve, KY), Hiram Kilburn (Big Rapids, MI), and Ollie Kilburn (Hillsdale, MI); and a sister, Ida Wilson (Richmond, KY).

Among those who preceded her in passing were her first husband, Alton P. Thompson, Jr.; a son, James Boyd Thompson; and a sister, Martha Raleigh.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, June 9, at David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville). Interment will be at the White and Francis Cemetery (Whick, KY).

Memorial contributions to the American Diabetes Association would be greatly appreciated by the family.

Mary Ruth Meadows

Mary Ruth Meadows of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on Tuesday, June 2, 2009, at the age of 86.

The daughter of the late James and Mary (Houndshell) Cheak was born in Hagan, Virginia, on Monday, October 16, 1922.

Mary was a licensed beautician and, most recently, a hostess at Glacier Hills Retirement Center for 28 years. She was a member of the Congregational Church of Ypsilanti for 55 years.

Always compassionate with any type of animal, she especially loved her pets, Tasha and Tootsie. She also enjoyed gardening and listening to her favorite country-music star, Alan Jackson.

Surviving Mary are 2 daughters, B. Paulette (William) Crane (Belleville) and

Lynn Cranston (Statesville, NC); 5 grandchildren, James E. (Christina) Slagenwhite (Belleville), Jennifer R. Slagenwhite (Ann Arbor, MI), Michael Cornett (Hindman, KY), Christine Cornett (Hindman), and William A. Crane (Spring, TX); and 8 great-grandchildren.

Among those who predeceased Mary were her husband, Roy E. Meadows; 5 sisters; and 6 brothers.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, June 6, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Reverend William Kren of The Evangelical Church officiating. Interment was at Highland Cemetery (Ypsilanti, MI).

Memorials may be directed to the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter Fund. □

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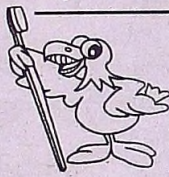
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will be accepting

School of Choice Enrollments

June 1 – 19, 2009

Kindergarten – Eighth Grade

10 openings per grade

Enrollment forms may be obtained at:

Barth Elementary	38207 Barth Road	734-532-1253
Cory Elementary	35200 Smith Road	734-532-1303
Halecreek Elementary	16200 Harrison Road	734-532-1353
Merriman Elementary	15303 Merriman Road	734-532-1403
Romulus Elementary	32200 Beverly Road	734-532-1453
Wick Elementary	36900 Wick Road	734-532-1503
Romulus Middle School	37300 Wick Road	734-532-1703
Romulus Board Office	36540 Grant Road	734-532-1600

Eligibility:

Students must reside in Wayne County.

The District will not accept any student who has been suspended or expelled from school within the last two years.

Enrollment process:

Enrollment forms may be obtained **now** at any of the buildings listed above.

Beginning June 1, 2009 through June 19, 2009:

Parent/legal guardian must be present at time of enrollment with the following:

Child's birth certificate

Child's immunization records

Proof of custody (if parent's name is not listed on child's birth certificate)

For questions, please call 734-532-1600

